

**Remarks**

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, but are indicated as allowable if amended. Claims 10-16 are allowed. Claims 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

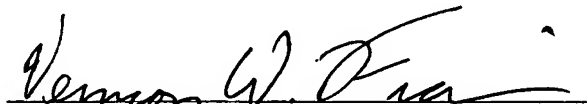
Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 10-16 and indication of allowability of claims 1-9 with appreciation. Claim 1 is amended above to recite "the emitter of the PNP transistor" as suggested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added. Applicants submit that claims 1-9 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 17 and 18 are cancelled as indicated above and replaced by new claims 19 and 20. Claim 21 is also added. Claim 19 finds support in at least claim 17, Figure 2, and paragraph 40 of the specification as originally filed. Claim 20 finds support in at least claim 18, Figure 2, and paragraph 40 of the specification as originally filed. Claim 21 finds support in Figure 2 and paragraph 40 of the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added. The reference relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting claims 17 and 18, U.S. Patent No. 6,654,409, discloses a circuit, in Figure 6B, that utilizes an active diode bridge to generate a DC power supply voltage VDD from a differential digital communication signal transmitted across an isolation barrier. See col. 12, lines 29-36, and col. 14, lines 3-8. In contrast, the method of new claim 19 generates power for the telephone interface circuit using a polarity steering regenerative switch electrically coupled to the first and second high impedance resistors such that the switch receives power from the first and second terminals of the telephone line pair.

In re Appln. of Holcombe et al.  
Application No. 10/777,731

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 1/26/06

